



Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025



Scan to Visit



Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6



Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

Maria “Mary” LeMura (Cannavó), 97, passed away on April 23, 2025, sustained by the love of her family and secure in her faith. A devout congregant of Our Lady of Pompei Church, Maria spent most of her life on the Northside of Syracuse working in the home, caring for her children, and supporting her friends and neighbors, often with a wonderful combination of advice and Italian cooking—both given with equal parts affection and spice. Born in the Bronx in 1927, Maria lived a life that spanned continents and nations. She was both a child of the United States and a daughter of Italy; she was a witty, self-taught woman who raised a family committed to education; she grew up in the shadow of war, which taught her the values of compassion, generosity, and resilience. Maria Cannavó LeMura stood only 5 feet 4 inches tall, but she leaves behind a towering legacy.

Maria’s parents, Giovanna (Pavone) Cannavó and Guiseppe Cannavó, arrived in the Bronx just two months before her birth. Her brother Salvatore Cannavó was born in Linguaglossa, Sicily, but she and her sisters, Angelina (Cannavó) Emmi and Concetta Cannavó, were born in the United States. While Maria was still a baby, the family returned to Italy where they worked in Linguaglossa running their own grocery store. During the hardships of World War II, as their small community suffered, the Cannavós provided food and safe harbor for all those in need. Maria’s parents modeled kindness, generosity, hope, and light. These values defined Maria, and they became the bedrock for the family she raised in the United States. In 1944, the final year of the war, Maria married Egidio Salvatore LeMura, a gifted local carpenter. In 1949, she returned to the Bronx along with her husband, their two oldest daughters, Carmelina (Lena) and Giovanna (Joanne). They eventually settled on the Northside of Syracuse. While they worked and raised a family, their home became a place of respite and support for many immigrants, some from Sicily, others from Russia and Turkey. Maria and Egidio recognized need rather than nationality or ethnicity; they opened their doors as wide as they opened their hearts. Following her husband’s passing in 1983, Maria worked part time at the Onondaga County Health Department until she retired in 2006. Not one to rest, however, Maria remained busy and engaged—the de facto mayor



Obituary

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

of the 700 block of North Townsend Street. In that neighborhood, she modeled an ethos familiar to most immigrants: you take care of the people who take care of you. When the grandchildren began to arrive, she happily became the preferred babysitter and storyteller—especially if those stories were about Italy. She was active in the Our Lady of Pompei Parent-Teacher Organization and the Society of Sant'Egidio, the patron saint of Linguaglossa. For 30 years she was a volunteer translator for Our Lady of Pompei, for St. Joseph's Hospital, for the Onondaga County Department of Social Services, and at the Northside CYO, where she served as a translator for many Ethiopian refugees. As proud as she was of her Italian heritage, Maria was deeply proud to be a first-generation American. Each time she translated the questions, worries, and needs of some newly arrived refugee or immigrant, she created community. More importantly, she demonstrated what she believed to be the finest quality of America: its embrace of the tired, the poor, and those yearning to be free. Maria LeMura inspired so many people, none more so than her beloved children and their families, who honor her example each day.

Maria is survived by her six children: Lena Kochian (Edward), Joanne O'Shea (Thomas), Armand, Joseph (Catherine), Linda LeMura-Tanner (Larry), and Lisa. Maria's infectious, generous spirit continues to enrich the lives of her grandchildren: Kevin, Jeffrey, Thomas, Mary Ellen, Jennifer, Lauren, Jamie, Emily and Max; her great grandchildren: Madison, Aidan, Britton, Jacob, Colin, Samuel, Alexis, Jonas, Isabelle, Carine, Helena, Jack, Ethan, and Madeleine; and, representing the fifth generation of the family, her great-great grandson, Mayer.

Calling hours will take place on Monday, April 28, 2025, from 9:30 – 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church, 301 Ash St., Syracuse. A funeral Mass in celebration of Maria's life will follow at 12:00 P.M. (noon) in the church. She will be laid to rest privately in Assumption Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Maria and Egidio LeMura Endowed Scholarship at Le Moyne College for first-generation students. Please mail gifts in their memory to Le Moyne College, Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 527, Syracuse NY, 13214 or online at www.lemoyne.edu/give.



Events


Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

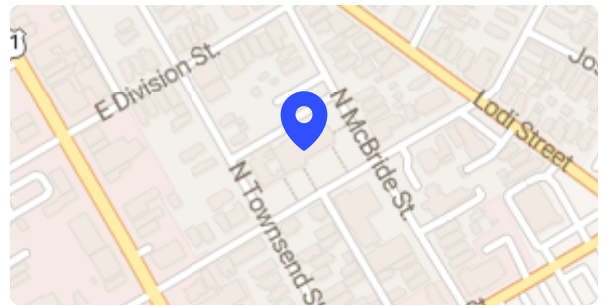
SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

Visitation

 **Monday**, April 28, 2025


 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM ET


 **Our Lady of Pompei - St. Peter Church**
301 Ash St., Syracuse NY 13208

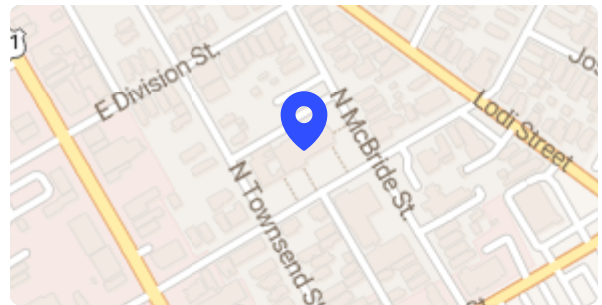


Funeral Mass


 **Monday**, April 28, 2025

 12:00 PM ET

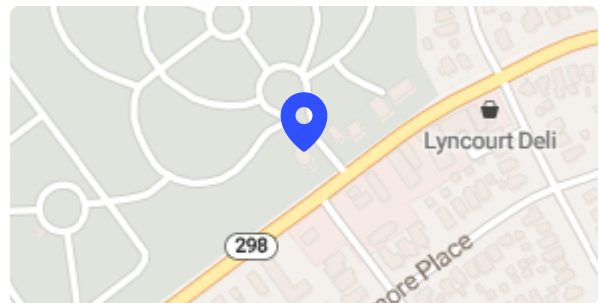
 **Our Lady of Pompei - St. Peter Church**
301 Ash St., Syracuse NY 13208



Cemetery Details

 **Assumption Cemetery**
2401 Court Street, Syracuse NY 13208

 **454-3841**





Tribute Wall

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

DG

Dale H Greabell posted:

Joe and family - just wanted to express my condolences to you and yours on the passing of such a North Side legend. I only met her briefly at your house and wedding. But such a nice matriarch. May God bless you all with the strength to get through these difficult times. With sympathy and prayer. By the way, i told Tom Robinson who used to work with us at Carvels and he wanted to express his condolences as well. Peace

May 2 at 6:47 AM

MO

Michael Orbino posted:

Our deepest sympathy to the Le Mura family. I got to know Mary very well when we lived on Ross Park. I would call her Godmother and she'd call me Godchild. I valued her friendship greatly. She was a special lady. So sorry for your loss. Michael & Linda Orbino

April 30 at 6:56 AM



Stephanie Renfrow posted:

My sincere condolences to the LeMura family. Mary was such a remarkable woman and matriarch. Her strength, resilience, and unwavering devotion to her family shaped generations. I'll never forget how upon meeting her for the first time the positive impression she left on me (and the laughs my 10 year old self from the "Italy - alka seltzer" poster hanging in her kitchen). She was tough-as-nails yet warm and inviting. May her memory continue to inspire all who knew her. My heart is with your family during this time of loss.

April 29 at 7:50 AM

MR

Michele Rourke lit a candle in honor of Maria "Mary".

Joe and Kathy, I'm so very sorry for your great loss. What a beautiful lady your mom was and what a legacy she left for generations to come! Joe, the last time I saw you was at the Fish Cove getting dinner for your mom like every good Italian son. I saw the obituary too late or I would have paid my respects. Please know that you are all in my prayers asking God to give you comfort and peace. God bless. Michele Tamurian Rourke



April 28 at 2:10 PM



Tribute Wall

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

BL

Benny Lamanna posted:

To the LeMura family, Pat and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to all the family and especially to Lena, Joe, Joanne and Linda. Mrs LeMura was a wonderful loving strong woman and we will always have fond memories of her. Her children were a reflection of her character and strength. We love you all! Benny and Pat Lamanna

April 28 at 6:18 AM

TJ

Terrie (Pennacchia) Jefferson posted:

On behalf of the Pennacchia family I would like to extend our deepest condolences for the loss of this amazing woman as is so clear in her tribute. She is so deserving of every word. The longer you have such a wonderful mother in your life the harder it is to say goodbye. Mary was very special to our family. We all grew up together from kindergarten on. She always had a bubbly spirit and a beautiful smile. On a personal note, I will be forever grateful for the time I spent with your entire family. It left an indelible mark on my heart. I share in your loss and I love you all. I'm so happy I was able to tell her that was well. Terrie (Pennacchia) Jefferson

April 28 at 4:42 AM

AH

Anne Ilacqua Herboldt posted:

My memories of your mom date back to OLP school as a child. Her kindness, smile and beautiful spirit have stayed with me through the years up to seeing her at work at the County. Her legacy is in her beautiful family and she is certainly at God's side watching over you still. Anne Ilacqua - Herboldt

April 26 at 10:20 AM

KH

Kathleen Hanna posted:

May your wonderful Mom rest in eternal peace. May the wonderful memories continue to give you solace. Kathleen Doherty Hanna

April 26 at 6:54 AM

MC

Mike Campese posted:

To the LeMura family My prayers and thoughts are with all of you Mike Campese

April 26 at 4:58 AM



Tribute Wall

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

AP

Antoinette Pallotta lit a candle in honor of Maria "Mary".

To the LeMura family, So Sorry for the Loss of your Beautiful Mom, I remember her well when I lived on Butternut St, The Creno's & Nappi's Loved her & the Family, She is in Heaven with all her Family & Friends, God Rest her Soul, Prayers are for you all, God Bless ❤️🙏 Love Antoinette Creno Pallotta

April 25 at 2:31 PM



JM

John Maurillo posted:

In high school days, I would visit the LeMura home as I sometimes hung out with Armand. She was a warm and welcoming mom, always pleasant with a smile. My condolences to the family.

April 25 at 2:04 PM

AB

Anthony F. Bucci posted:

Sincere condolences to the entire LeMura family, but in particular to Lena, Armand, and Linda whom I have known through the years. That "triangle" house where Lodi and Townsend Street converged was a North Side landmark for me as I walked home everyday from OLP School or Church, because then I knew I was halfway home. Your mother is now fully at home.

April 25 at 1:34 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Maria "Mary".

April 25 at 10:03 AM



JH

Joanne And Mark Hazelwood planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Maria "Mary".

April 25 at 7:15 AM





Tribute Wall

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025

JH

Joanne And Mark Hazelwood sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the LeMura (Cannavó) family.

April 25 at 7:15 AM



JF

Jim And Pat Previtera And Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Maria "Mary".

April 24 at 7:43 PM



JF

Jim And Pat Previtera And Family sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the LeMura (Cannavó) family.

April 24 at 7:43 PM



WF

With Love, The Doherty Family sent an Enchanted Cottage to the LeMura (Cannavó) family.

April 24 at 5:29 PM



AN

Angeline posted:

To the Lemura family, I will always remember my sweet friend Mary when I lived on Townsend street. I remember taking care of Lena ,Joann and of course Armond.God Bless you all.Angeline Baranello Dambroso

April 24 at 2:31 PM



Tribute Wall

Maria "Mary" LeMura (Cannavó)

SEP 3, 1927 - APR 23, 2025



Patricia Nappi sent a virtual gift in honor of Maria "Mary".



To Mary (Maria) family we are so sorry for your great loss your mom was so sweet I remember her growing up and your dad on Townsend street ,And she would walk by and talk to my mom and Grandma Kate Nappi and Giovanna Tripodi ,And how nice she was to all and Kind you do not forget a person like her in a lifetime ,And Lena I am so sorry and thank you for all your kindness to My Son Tommy And To Linda for you Kindness to my Nephew Patrick people like you you never forget and never forgot were we came from I pray your mom didn't suffer and she rest in peace in heaven with your dad no matter what age losing your mom is so devastating ,my heart goes out to you all your sisters and Brother and family god bless such a wonderful lady I am so sorry I can not be there to tell this in person I am out town god bless you all great family from Patricia A Nappi -Dery and Thomas Patrick Dery And Thomas Dery family 🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️

April 24 at 2:04 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Maria "Mary" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit

